Woman not happy with her life at common milestone



DEAR ABBY: For years, I've heard about what and where a woman "should" be in her life once she turns the big 3-0. She should have a thriving career, be married with kids — or at least engaged — and have a full sense of her worth and knowledge.

I recently turned the big 3-0, but my cards aren't all stacked that way. I have never had a romantic relationship. Most of the men I wanted to start one with only wanted sex with me, and a relationship with someone else. As I entered my late 20s, I

began rejecting men who showed signs of wanting only a sexual relationship, and now I seem to have no takers at all. The fact that I have gained weight hasn't helped, either. It's not like once I meet a guy the first thing I say is, "Hey, I want a meaningful relationship." I'm beginning to worry that something is wrong with me. What should I do? — THIRTY **BUT NOT FLIRTY**

DEAR THIRTY: There is nothing wrong with you, just as there is nothing wrong with getting to know someone before embarking on a physical relationship. (In fact, I recommend it.) However, to eliminate a man because you think he "only" is interested in having sex with you was jumping the gun.

I wish you had mentioned where you were meeting men. You may have better luck if you figure out what interests you have in common with the men you meet, and develop relationships based on them. And, because you suspect the weight you have gained may have something to do with your problem, resolve to become involved in physical activities that will get you out of the house and into an environment where you'll not only get some exercise, but also meet some eligible prospects.

DEAR ABBY: I've been married to my husband, "Asher," for 20 years, and during our marriage, I have always been the person who plans and throws birthday parties, including his. I

gave him a large surprise party for his 40th birthday.

Abby, this whole time, nobody has thrown me a party or planned a celebration centered on me. I'm lucky to get a last-minute, storebought cake and a dinner out on my birthday. Our 50th birthdays are coming up in a few months, and friends and family are asking what I'm planning for him, but nobody says anything about mine.

I resent that these people, including Asher, take me for granted, and I'm considering digging in my heels on party planning this time around. I have told Asher that maybe it's about time somebody planned ME a party, but he doesn't seem to get it. Have you any advice for

me? I like a nice celebration, but I'm tired of being the one doing all the work without reciprocation. — PARTY GIRL ÎN THE SOUTH

DEAR PARTY GIRL: While you can't control how other people behave, there is nothing wrong with enlisting some "help" in your planning. Express your feelings (again) to your self-involved husband and also to the friends and relatives who have enjoyed your hospitality for so long without reciprocating. Plan the party for Asher, and if your birthday is again ignored, plan something special you might like with your closest friends - preferably, out of town - and follow through. I think you are entitled, don't you?

WHO says measures used against delta should work for omicron

By JIM GOMEZ The Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines — Measures used to counter the delta variant should remain the foundation for fighting the coronavirus pandemic, even in the face of the new omicron version of the virus, World Health Organization officials said Friday, Dec. 3, while acknowledging that the travel restrictions imposed by some countries may buy time

While about three dozen countries worldwide have reported omicron infections, including India on Dec. 2, the numbers so far are small outside of South Africa, which is facing a rapid rise in COVID-19 cases and where the new variant may be becoming dominant. Still, much remains unclear about omicron, including whether it is more contagious, as some health authorities suspect, whether it makes people more seriously ill, or whether it can evade vaccine protection.

"Border control can delay the virus coming in and buy time. But every country and every community must prepare for new surges in cases," Dr. Takeshi Kasai, the WHO regional director for the Western Pacific, told reporters Friday during a virtual news conterence from the Philippines. "The positive news in all of this is that none of the information we have currently about omicron suggests we need to change the directions of our response."

He added that health sys-

Olowokure.

to push for higher vacci-

nation rates, abiding by

social-distancing guide-

Director Dr. Babatunde

lines, and wearing masks,

among other measures, said

WHO Regional Emergency

cannot be complacent." WHO has previously urged against border closures, noting they often have limited effect and can cause major disruptions. Officials in southern Africa, where the omicron variant was

surge also pushed hospitalizations and deaths to record highs.

been designated a variant of concern because of the number of mutations and because early information suggests it may be more transmissible than other variants, Kasai said.

A few countries in the Western Pacific region are facing surges that began before omicron was identified, though COVID-19 cases and deaths in many others have decreased or plateaued, Kasai said. But that could change.

have found the variant in the region are Australia, Hong Kong, Japan, South Korea, Singapore and Malaysia and it is likely to crop up elsewhere.

The emergence of omicron is of particular concern told reporters at a briefing on Dec. 3.

China has adopted a zero-tolerance policy toward COVID-19 transmission and has some of the world's strictest border controls. Games participants will have to live and compete inside a bubble, and only spectators who are residents of China and have been vaccinated and tested will be permitted at venues.

Globally, cases have been increasing for seven consecutive weeks and the number of deaths has started to rise again, too, driven largely by the delta variant and decreased use of protective measures in other parts of the world, Kasai said.

"We should not be surprised to see more surges in the future. As long as transmission continues, the virus can continue to mutate, as the emergence of omicron demonstrates, reminding us of the need to stay vigilant," Kasai said.

He warned especially about the likelihood of surges due to more gatherings and movement of people during the holiday season. The northern winter season will also likely bring other infectious respiratory diseases, such as the flu, alongside COVID-19.

"It is clear that this pandemic is far from over and I know that people are wor



A traveler arrives to enter into a COVID-19 testing center at the Incheon International Airport In Incheon, South Korea, Wednesday, Dec. 1,

2021. South Korea's daily jump in coronavirus infections exceeded 5,000 for the first time since the start of the pandemic, as a delta-driven

That means continuing

tems must "ensure we are treating the right patients in the right place at the right time, and so therefore ensuring that ICU beds are available, particularly for those who need them."

Kasai warned: "We

first identified, have decried restrictions on travelers from the region, saying they are being punished for alerting the world to the mutant strain.

Scientists are working furiously to learn more about omicron, which has

Among the places that

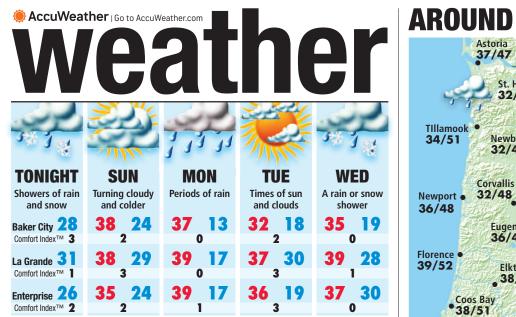
OREGON AND

for organizers of the Beijing Winter Olympic Games, now about two months away.

Beijing is adopting a series of measures to reduce the risk the virus will spread during the Games, Zhao Weidong, spokesperson for the organizing committee,

THE REGION

ried about omicron," Kasai said. "But my message today is that we can adapt the way we manage this virus to better cope with the future surges and reduce their health, social and economic impacts."



Comfort Index takes into account how the weather will feel based on a combination of factors. A rating of 10 feels very comfortable while a rating of 0 feels very uncomfortable

40%

ALMANAC

TEMPERATURES	Baker City	La Grande	Elgin			
High Thursday	50°	57°	58°			
Low Thursday	23°	35°	37°			
PRECIPITATION (inches)						
Thursday	0.00	0.00	0.00			
Month to date	0.00	0.00	0.00			
Normal month to dat	e 0.06	0.15	0.29			
Year to date	5.01	9.98	22.04			
Normal year to date	8.27	15.67	22.47			

AGRICULTURAL INFO. HAY INFORMATION SUNDAY

Lowest	relative	humidit	ty	

Afternoon wind	NNW at 4 to 8 mph
Hours of sunshine	0.8
Evapotranspiration	0.04

RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Friday)

Phillips Reservoir	N.A.
Unity Reservoir	16% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir	14% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	11% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	11% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	8% of capacity

STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Thursday

e (unough manight maroad	9/
Grande Ronde at Troy	1060 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	0 cfs
Burnt River near Unity	16 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	98 cfs
Minam River at Minam	156 cfs
Powder River near Richland	13 cfs

THURSDAY EXTREMES

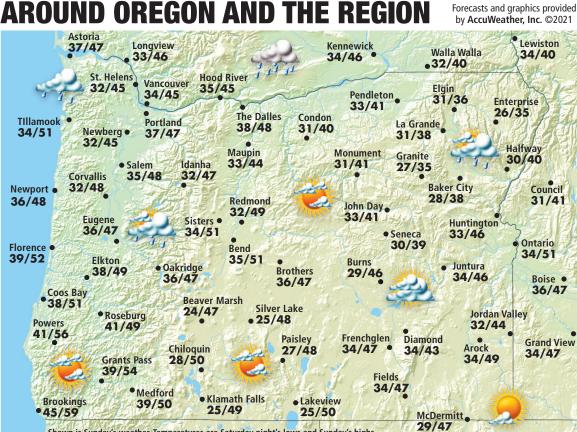
AIIUN (for the 48 contiguous states)				
ligh: 87°	Ocotillo Wells, Calif.			
.ow: 7°	Angel Fire, N.M.			
Vettest: 1.08"	Clayton, Maine			
DREGON				
ligh: 64°	Rome			
.ow: 20°	Lakeview			
Vettest: 0.10"	Astoria			

WEATHER HISTORY

On Dec. 4, 1995, a rare severe thunderstorm formed over the Black Hills of South Dakota which produced 2-inch-diameter hail and wind gusts to 60 mph.

SUN & MOON

		SAT.	SUN.
Sunrise	7	':15 a.m.	7:16 a.m.
Sunset	4	l:10 p.m.	4:10 p.m.
Moonrise	7	':52 a.m.	9:09 a.m.
Moonset	4:30 p.m. 5:29 p.m.		
MOON PH	IASES		
First	Full	Last	New
B			6
Dec 10	Dec 18	Dec 26	lan 2



Shown is Sunday's weather. Temperatures are Saturday night's lows and Sunday's highs.

MON.

Hi/Lo/W

40/28/sn

44/33/

38/14/sn 49/39/1 51/40/ 41/30/

43/20/sh 40/28/sh 43/23/sn 50/38/ 55/45/ 50/28/ 53/40/

50/38/ 33/19/sn 47/36/sh 37/17/sr 39/25/sn

REGIONAL CITIES

	SUN.	MON.		SUN.
City	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	City	Hi/Lo/W
Astoria	47/40/c	48/38/r	Lewiston	40/32/c
Bend	51/36/c	48/32/r	Longview	46/36/c
Boise	47/31/pc	42/22/sh	Meacham	36/28/c
Brookings	59/44/pc	53/42/r	Medford	50/38/c
Burns	46/25/pc	46/18/sh	Newport	48/40/pc
Coos Bay	51/38/pc	55/43/r	Olympia	42/35/c
Corvallis	48/37/c	49/36/r	Ontario	51/28/c
Council	41/25/pc	36/16/sn	Pasco	46/34/c
Elgin	36/27/c	38/18/sn	Pendleton	41/31/c
Eugene	47/37/c	52/40/r	Portland	47/40/pc
Hermiston	45/35/c	45/27/sh	Powers	56/41/pc
Hood River	45/37/c	45/36/r	Redmond	49/32/c
Imnaha	39/33/c	43/23/sn	Roseburg	49/40/c
John Day	41/32/c	44/28/sn	Salem	48/40/c
Joseph	34/25/c	40/18/sn	Spokane	34/27/c
Kennewick	46/35/c	41/29/sh	The Dalles	48/37/c
Klamath Falls	49/28/pc	46/25/sh	Ukiah	36/27/c
Lakeview	50/25/pc	46/23/sh	Walla Walla	40/33/c

Weather(W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice

RECREATION FORECAST SUNDAY

ANTHONY LAKES Turning cloudy	Turning cloudy
25 20	37 27
MT. EMILY REC. Colder	BROWNLEE RES. Turning cloudy
29 26	44 32
EAGLE CAP WILD. Turning cloudy	EMIGRANT ST. PARK
26 17	33 23
WALLOWA LAKE Colder	MCKAY RESERVOIR Cooler
34 25	41 31
THIEF VALLEY RES. Colder	RED BRIDGE ST. PARK
20 24 200	20 20 20